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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,394	03/29/2004	Takaaki Nozaki	Q80586	3243
23373	7590	04/04/2005	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				KWOK, HELEN C
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2856				

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/811,394	NOZAKI, TAKAAKI <i>AM</i>	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Helen C. Kwok	2856	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 14-21 and 25 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13,22-24 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>March 29, 2004</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 5-11, 22-24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 5, line 2, the phrase "the electrodes" is vague. Is this referring to the first electrodes of the transducers or the second electrodes of the transducers or both the first and second electrodes of the transducers? Please clarify.

In claim 13, line 2, the phrase "the substrate" lacks antecedent basis. In lines 2-3, the phrase "the piezoelectric transducer" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 19, lines 1-2, it is not clear if the phrase "a substrate" claimed here is the same substrate as claimed in claim 14. If so, the phrase "a substrate" should be changed to -- the substrate --.

In claim 22, lines 4-5, is the measuring unit measuring information from just one "the piezoelectric transducer" or more than one "piezoelectric transducers". Please

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clarify. In line 7, the word "transducer" should be changed to – transducers --.

In claim 23, line 3, the word "transducer" should be changed to – transducers --.

In claim 26, line 4, the phrase "the sample" is vague. Is this the same "sample" as claimed in line 2 of claim 25 or the "sample" as claimed in line 5 of claim 26. Please clarify.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-5 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) or 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,818,959 (Katob) or U.S. Patent 6,819,203 (Taniguchi), respectively.

The references, Katob and Taniguchi, disclose a device, comprising a plurality of piezoelectric transducers (5,6; P1,P2), each transducer having a pair of electrodes including a first electrode (52,62; as observed in the figure) and a second electrode (53,63; as observed in the figure); a pair of connecting lines including a first connecting

line that is commonly connected to each of the first electrodes of the transducers and a second connecting line that is commonly connected to each of the second electrodes of the transducers; and a pair of terminals including a first terminal (7,8; as observed in the figure) that is connected to the first connecting line and a second terminal (9,10; as observed in the figure) that is connected to the second connecting line. (See, Figures 14-17, column 5, line 26-51 of Katob; Figures 8, column 10, lines 26-39 of Taniguchi). [It should be noted that the preamble of the claim is not given any patentable weight since there is no features being claimed that is related to the preamble in the body of the claim].

With regards to claims 2-5 and 12-13, as observed in the figures, a substrate; the first and second electrodes are disposed on a front surface and a rear surface of the transducers such that the connecting lines are connected in parallel by lead wires on the substrate.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 14-26 are allowed over the prior art of record.

7. Claims 6-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

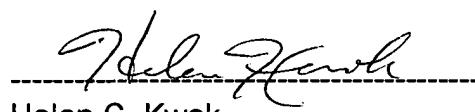
8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The reference cited is related to quartz crystal microbalance devices.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helen C. Kwok whose telephone number is (571) 272-2197. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron E. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-2208. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Helen C. Kwok
Art Unit 2856